



**THREE SMALL REASONS TO GIVE** — These Vietnam tots look to American generosity to meet their needs for food, clothing and shelter. Orphaned by war, they are just three of millions all over the world who are aided by American Catholic Overseas Aid Fund.

## Sunday... A Time to Give!

Collections for the 23rd annual American Catholic Overseas Aid Fund, sponsored by U.S. Bishops, are scheduled in diocesan parishes on Laetare Sunday, March 16.

Proceeds help support emergency relief, social welfare and self-help programs in 70 countries in Asia, Africa and Latin America.

Catholic Relief Services helped more than 40 million men, women and children of all races and religions last year, including one million victims of the Viet Cong Tet attacks on South Vietnam cities.

CRS also was one of the first agencies to organize a mercy airlift into war-torn Biafra in Nigeria.

Fund has been set at \$10 million. Parishes in the Rochester Diocese last year contributed \$129,802.87.

National goal of the 1969 Catholic Overseas Aid



**BISHOP JOINS LEADERS AT SCRIPTURE WORKSHOP** — Auxiliary Bishop John E. McCafferty (standing second from left) joined leaders who conducted two-day ecumenical Scripture Workshop Mar. 7-8 at Watson Homestead, near Painted Post, sponsored by Christian Formation Board of the Southern Tier. From left are: standing—Edward Slagis, Big Flats; Bishop McCafferty; Father Sebastian Falcone, OFM, Cap., of St. Bernard's Seminary faculty, who conducted sessions; Richard Wardell, Corning; Father John M. Mulligan, assistant at St. Patrick's Church, Corning; seated — Sister Mary Andrew, S.A., Elmira; Mrs. Edward Slagis, Big Flats; Sister Claire Josepha, S.S.J., Elmira.

## 228 Attend Ecumenical Workshop

Elmira—Two hundred twenty-eight persons — including some who came from Buffalo and Ogdensburg Dioceses — attended a two-day ecumenical scripture workshop Friday and Saturday, March 7-8, at Watson Homestead near Painted Post.

It was described as "one of the most successful events" to have taken place in the area in many months. It was sponsored by the Christian Formation Board of the Southern Tier vicariate.

Theme of the gathering was a study of the Bible. Conducting the conferences was Father Sebastian Falcone, OFM, of St. Bernard's Seminary faculty.

"I confess I didn't think the Bible could be made that interesting," admitted one participant.

Father Sebastian discussed the historical, literary and theological approaches to Scripture as basic to an understanding of the Bible. His topics included:

"Basic Principles in Unlocking Scripture"; "A Theological Key to Reading the Old and New Testament"; "Genesis — Unraveling the Message," and "The Historical Christ."

Auxiliary Bishop John E. McCafferty addressed the Saturday luncheon, urging participants to "continue your pursuit of Christian truth, for as we all know, we have a long way to go."

Watson Homestead is a "retreat and conference center" situated in a wooded-hill area three miles north of Coopers Plains off Route 15 on Meads Creek Road. It is mid-center of a triangle formed by Corning, Bath and Ithaca.

It is owned and operated by the Western New York Conference of the Methodist Church "to serve all denominations, and invites all religious, educational, social service and charitable organizations to participate in use of its facilities."

## They Bring Gifts

Greece Ecumenical Venture Unique

By MARCELLA ENNIS

The annual "Week of Prayer for Christian Unity" has come and gone. The number of inter-faith services compressed into this period might indicate that this is the end of the line for 1969. But there is healthy evidence that ecumenism is very much alive during the other 51 weeks of the year.

Among various groups which have promoted inter-faith relationships on a continuing basis is one organized in the town of Greece about a year and a half ago. Calling itself GIFTS — Greece Interfaith Fellowship Through Service — this ecumenical venture is unique in being completely lay-oriented.

GIFTS had its beginning in a Livingroom Dialogue composed of church members from Greece Baptist, St. John the Evangelist Catholic, John Knox Presbyterian and Greece Methodist.

Because of the cooperative spirit developed on this inter-personal level, a broader sphere of involvement seemed both desirable and possible. After this decision had been made, the Edgerton Area Ministry was helpful in advising the group.

Since that time, five other churches have joined the affiliation: Trinity Episcopal, Holy Name of Jesus, Lutheran Church of Concord, St. Lawrence and Greece United Methodist. Any Greece church may become a member by sending three representatives to each meeting. Bernard Girouard is the present chairman.

The purpose in forming such an association was to initiate joint action on matters of community concern. It was felt that by combining forces, duplication of effort would be avoided and more effective results could be realized.

Because of this policy, GIFTS does not attempt to supersede or compete with existing community organizations. Rather, it directs "those with particular interests toward groups already established for that purpose — GROH (Greece Residents for Open Housing) — for example.

Last summer GIFTS operated a two-week Vacation Religion School at Greece Baptist Church. The "curriculum" based on texts obtained from religious publishing houses, was geared to those in kindergarten through fifth grade. A total of 275 children attended.

Because of the large number of members who volunteer (over 100), it was possible to provide two teachers of different faiths for each class. Clergy of each faith were consulted on the texts used, and at some time during the two-week period each one was invited to conduct a brief worship service for the children. Plans are being made to hold a similar school again this year.

The group's Youth Committee has organized dances for junior high students, and at present is searching for a "coffee house" location where this age group may, with supervision, meet on a regular basis.

Still another field of endeavor is Adult Education. GIFTS currently is sponsoring an interfaith Lenten series. Scheduled on consecutive Sunday evenings, Mar. 2 through 23, at four of the churches, two topics are being explored.

"Dispersing the Times: The Church in Today's World," is moderated by Rev. Charles F. Christiansen of Greece Baptist Church and Father Frank E. Lioi of St. John the Evangelist; "Marriage and the Family: Christians in Today's World," by Rev. Robert F. Stevens of John Knox Church and Father William Michatek of St. Lawrence's. A brief Lenten service precedes each session and a special hour concludes it.

Though GIFTS has developed principally as a service-to-others medium, undoubtedly its members have reaped many personal benefits. As one of its founders, Mrs. James Cloonan, remarked:

"This group in no way interferes with one's own religious commitment, on the contrary, we return to our respective churches spiritually revitalized and in fact better informed about its doctrine and practices."

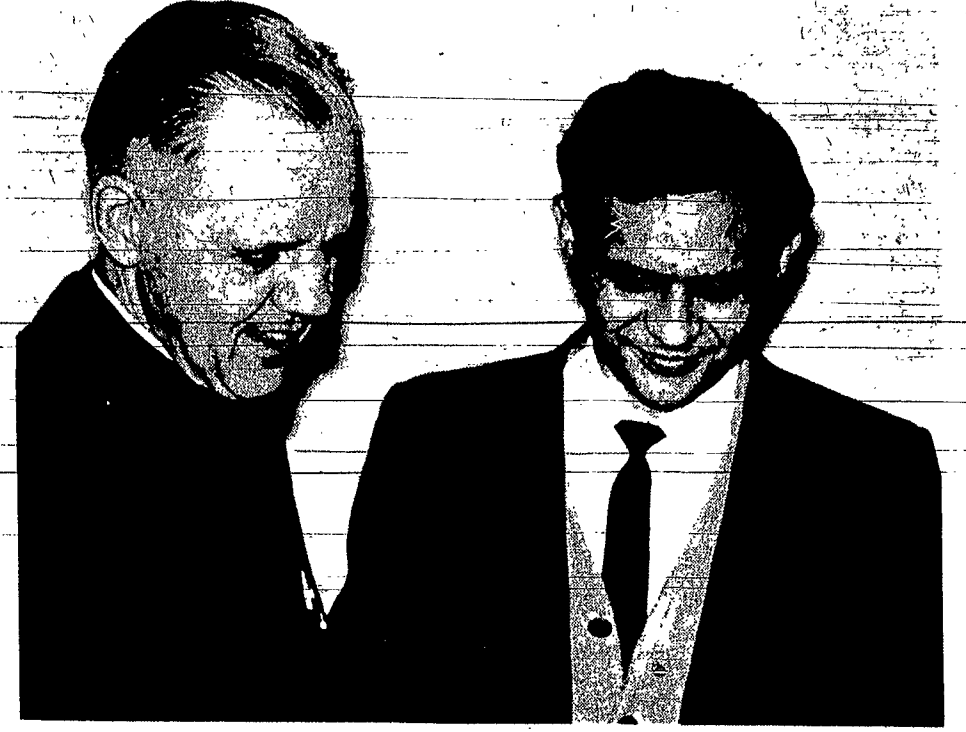
## Fr. Connor Education Coordinator

Father Albert J. Shamon, episcopal vicar for the diocesan Office of Christian Formation, announced today that Father Gerald T. Connor, assistant pastor of St. Joseph's, Penfield, will be chairman of Christian Formation "area coordinators."

Father Connor also will serve as area director for parishes in Rochester city.

One of the first aims of the coordinating group will be a survey to obtain "a profile of the religious teaching programs in every parish." Besides Father Connor, area coordinators are:

Fr. James A. Schwartz, Rochester's suburbs; Fr. Foster Rogers, Rochester's east suburbs; Fr. John L. O'Connor, Newark area; Fr. Robert Miller, Geneva; Fr. John Glogowski, Auburn; Fr. David Gramke, Ithaca; Fr. John M. Mulligan, Elmira; Fr. Robert G. Magin, Hornell; Fr. David Simon, Avon.



**SPANISH APOSTOLATE OUTLINED**—Father Benedict Ehmann, pastor of St. Michael's Church, hears about Spanish Apostolate in diocese from George Colon, executive director of the movement. Colon was speaker Mar. 7 at the parish in a series of Lenten Friday discussions on "Christianity in Action."

## Spanish Citizens Hurt By 'Credibility Gap'

There is a "credibility gap" — a lack of understanding — which must be bridged between citizens of the Rochester area and Spanish-speaking peoples if we are to have a "truly Christian community," a representative of the Puerto Rican community contended here last week.

He is George R. Colon, executive director of the Spanish Apostolate of the Rochester Diocese, and a representative of the Ibero-American Action League. Spokesman, as it were, for the 12,000 Spanish-speaking residents of the Rochester Diocese, Colon declared:

"You have your customs, we have ours. We are doing our best to study and adapt to your customs. We wish you would do the same for ours."

Colon was speaker at the third in a series of "Christianity in Action" discussions scheduled in St. Michael's parish on successive Lenten Fridays.

Colon pleaded for greater understanding as he outlined the "aim, purpose and function of the diocesan Spanish Apostolate." The diocesan Spanish Apostolate movement is centered at Holy Redeemer Church's former Concordia Hall, 938 Clifford

Avon, under the spiritual directorship of Father Anthony F. Calimeri, pastor of St. Jerome's Church, East Rochester.

Colon reported some progress, "admittedly slow," between the Puerto Ricans and the area community.

An avid religionist, he was enthusiastic about the benefits he said were being gained by the Cursillo movement, a Spanish-founded "intensive retreat" program which is gaining increasing adherents in the Rochester Diocese.

Urging greater participation in the Cursillo movement, he said he could not begin to describe the effect they have on the individual's Christian outlook.

Father Benedict Ehmann, pastor of St. Michael's, said he is now taking courses in the Spanish language. He announced that the Lenten series would continue to study immediate needs in its next lecture discussion March 14. Scheduled Friday night, March 14, is a talk by Sister Grace on "The Negro Apostolate — What has been done and what can be done to help the Negro establish his identity."

Why wait for the

big thaw



**Krey Canned Meats go from can to table in 87 seconds.**

Convenient, yes, but there's more, much more. Our *persnickety* cooks have spent hours hot-stoving it over tender, juicy beef . . . fresh-picked vegetables . . . imported seasonings.

Stock stacks of our many old-time favorites. Incidentally, there's no law against serving two (or more) Krey canned meats at the same meal!

NOW! Get Gift Stars with Krey Canned Meat labels



KREY IS A PRODUCT